



I WONDER



Eva loves to look for the moon. It follows her from place to place, disappearing behind trees and mountains, and then appearing again someplace new.

“Look, Mama, there it is!”

“The moon looks so beautiful in the sky. How do you think it follows us, Eva?”

Eva thinks about it, but she just can’t figure it out.

“It’s okay to say, I don’t know,” says her mother. “When we don’t know something, we get to *wonder* about it!”

“I wonder if the moon and the earth are friends,” says Eva.

Her mother smiles. “I like that idea.”



“But, Mama, how does the moon *really* stay close to us?”

“There is an invisible force called *gravity* that pulls all the things in the universe together,” Eva’s mother explains. “Gravity keeps the moon close to the earth, and it keeps the planets close to the sun, too. They circle around like this.”



Eva understands a little better, but then she starts to wonder...

“Mama, where does gravity come from?”

“I don’t know, Eva. Nobody really knows for sure. And when no one knows the answer to something, it’s called a **mystery**. A mystery is something for everyone to wonder about together.”

How fun! Eva imagines herself wondering about gravity together with *all of the people in the world*.



Eva watches the moon disappear behind the clouds as she walks, excited to see where it will appear next.

“How many grains of sand are there in the whole world, Mama?”

“I wonder about that too! There are trillions and trillions of grains of sand, but nobody knows *exactly* how many.”

Eva tries to think about all the sand in the whole world.

“It feels so big that I can’t fit it all in my imagination. It makes me feel dizzy, like I’m falling.”

“I know what you mean,” her mother agrees, “and I’m sure other people feel that way too.”



Eva walks down another path, looking for the moon, and a little, orange butterfly appears.

Then she notices there are butterflies everywhere!



“Mama, where did all these butterflies come from?”

“These butterflies have been flying around for a few days. But they started out as little caterpillars. And those caterpillars came from eggs. And those eggs came from other butterflies. There are ***cycles*** all around us, with one thing ending and another beginning. Things are always ***changing***. Can you think of other things that change?”



“Hmm...Clouds, and frogs...and ME!”



Later Eva wonders, “Mama, what was here before all the butterflies, and frogs, and clouds – before *everything*?”

“I don’t know,” answers her mother. “It’s another mystery! I like trying to imagine what was here before the beginning of everything. What do you think was here?”

And Eva says, smiling, “*I don’t know.*”

She thinks about it for a long time, and then she has an idea! “I wonder if there were feelings...”



As she walks home, Eva sees the moon again, glowing brightly above the roof of her house.

“Let’s go inside and look for the moon through the window!”



We live with some big mysteries.

When we come upon one, we’re given a little gift.

Every mystery is something for all of us to wonder about together.

What do you wonder about?

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